ANNIE AND WILLIE'S PRAYER

"Twas the eve before Christmas..." Good night" had been said. And Annie and Willie bad crept into bed; There were tears on their pillows, and tears in their eyes And each little bosom was heaving with sixhs, For to-night their stern father's command had been

TO SANTA CLAUS.

For to-night their given given
given
That they should retire precisely at seven,
Instead of at right; for they troubled him more
With questions unbeard of than ever-hefore;
With questions unbeard of than ever-hefore;
He had told them he thought this delasion a sin,
No such being as "Santa Claus" ever had been,
And he hoped after this he should nevermore hear.
And he scrambied down chimneys with presents
How he scrambied down chimneys with presents

How he scrambied shown chimneys with presents each year.

And this was the reason that two little heads. So restlessly tossed on their soft downy beds. So restlessly tossed on their soft downy beds. Eight, nine, and the clock on the steeple tolled ten; Not a word had been snoken by either till then. When Wille's sad face from the blanket did peep. And whispered, "Dear Annie, is you fast saleep?" And whispered, "Dear Annie, is you fast saleep?" Why, no, brother Wille, "a tweet voice replies, "I've tried but in wain, for I can't shut my eyes, "Pre tried but in wain, for I can't shut my eyes, "Dear papa has sa'd there is no "tanta Claus." Dow we know there is, and it can't be denied. For he came everty year before mamma died; But then, I've been thinking that she used to pray, and Goo would hear everything mamma would say; and perhaps she asked Him to send Santa Claus here.

With the sack full of presents he brought every "Well, why tan't we p'ay dest as mamma did den, And ask Dod to send him with p'esents aden?" "I've been thinking so too." And without a word Four little bare feetbounded out on the floor,

And four little ware recommend out on the moor,
And four little knees the soft carpet pressed,
And two tiny hands were clasped close to each
breast.

"Now, Willie, you know we must firmly believe
That the presents we ask for we're sure to receive.
You must wait just as still till I say the 'Amen,'
And by that you will know that your turn has come
then. Dear Jesus, look down on my brother and me,

Dear Jesus, look down on my brother and me, And grant us the favor we are seeking of Thee. I want a wax dolly, a tea-set, and rinz, And an ebony work box that shuts with a spring. Bless papa, dear Jesus, and cause him to see That Sana Clus loves us tar better than he. Don't let him g. t fretful and anary again At dear brother Willie and Annic. Amen."

"Please, Desus, 'et Santa Taus tum down to-night, And b'ing us some n'esents pefore it is 'ight. "Please, Desus, 'et Santa Taus tum down to-night,
And b'ng us some p'esents acfore it is 'ight.
I want he stoudd dive me a nice 'lttie s'ed,
With b'ight thirin' 'unners, and all painted 'ed;
A box full of tandy, a book and a toy;
Amen, and den. Decus, I'll be a dood boy."
Their prayers being ended they raised up their heads.

And with bearts light and cheerful, again sought They were soon lest in slumber both peaceful and And with fairles in dreamland were roaming in Fight, nine, and the little French clock had struck

Fre the father had thought of his children again; eems new to hear Annie's half-suppressed And to see the big tears stand in Willie's blue eyes; "I was harsh with my carlings," he mentally said,
"And should not have sent them so early to bed,

But then I was troubled; my feelings found vent, For bank stock to-day has gone down ten per cent, But of course they've forgotten their troubles ere this,
And that I denied them the thrice-asked for kiss;
But just to make sure I'll steal up to the door.
For I never spoke harsh to my darlings before,"
So saying, he softly ascended the stairs.
And arrived at the door to hear both of their

His Anule's "Bless papa" draws forth the big tears, And Willie's grave promise falls sweet on his ears. "Strange, strange 1'd forgotten," said he, with a "How I longed, when a child, to have Christmas araw nigh.

I'll atone for my har-haces," he inwardly said,

By answering their prayers ere I sleep in my Then he turned to the staircase, and softly went

down.

Threw off velvet slippers, and silk dressing gown.

Donned hat, coat, and boots, and was out in the street.

A millionaire facing the cold, driving sleet.

A millionaire facing the had bought everything.

Nor stopped he until he had bought everything.

From a box full of sweets to the tiny gold ring.

Indeed he kept adoing so much to his store. That the various present outnumbered a score. en homeward he turned, with his h And, with Aunt Mary's help, in the nursery t'wa

There were balls, degs, and horses, books pleasant to see,
And birds of all colors were perched in the tree;
While Santa Claus, laughing, stood up in the top,
As if getting ready more presents to drop.
And as the fond father the picture surveyed,
He thought for his trouble he had amply been paid;
And he said to himself, as he breshed off a tear,
I'm happier to-night than I've been for a year;
I've enjoyed more true pleasure than ever before.
What care I if bank stock fail ten per cent. more?
Hereafter I'll linake it a rule, I beheve.
To have Santa Claus visit us each Christmas Eve."
So thinking, he gently extinguished the light,
And tripped down the stairs to retire for the night.
As soon as the beams of the bright morning sun
Put the darkness to flight, and the stars, one by one,
Four little blue eyes out of sleep opened wide,
And at the same moment the presents espled.
Then out of their beds they sprang with a bound,
And the very gifts prayed for were all of them
found.
They laughed and they cried in their innocent glee, They laughed and they cried in their innocent gice,

nd shouted for "papa" to come quick and see ha presents old santa Claus brought in the night, (Just the things that they wanted,) and left before

light.
"And now," added Annie, in a voice soft and low,
"You'll believe there's a Santa Claus, papa, 1
know."
While dear little Willie climbed up on his knee,
Determined no secret between them should be,
And told in soft whispers how Annie had said
That their blessed mamma, so long ago dead,
Used to kneel down and pray by the side of her
chair. And that God, up is heaven, had answered her Den we dot up and played dest as well as we

And Dod answered our players. Now, wasn't he "I should say that he was, if he sent you all these, And knew just what presents my children would please.
Weil, let him think so, the dear little elf,
('I'would be cruel to tell him I did it myself.)"
Blind tather! Who caused your stern heart to re-

lent,
And the hasty words spoken so so on to repent?
Twas the Being who bade you steal softly up stairs,
And made you his agert to answer their prayers.
[Mrs. SOPHIA P. SNOW.

Christmas Shadows.

The needles have dropped from her nerveless hands
As the watches the dying embers glow,
For out from the broar old chimney-place
Come ghostly shadows of "long ago"—
Shadows that carry her back again
To the time of her childhood's artless joy;
Shadows that show her a tiny row
Of stockings awaiting the Christmas toy;

Shadows that show her the faces loved Of many a half-forgotten friend; And the Christmas-eve it is passing by, While Past and Present in shadows blend. Alone in the dear old homestead now, With only the shadows of "Auld Lang Syne," The clock is ticking the noments on, While the tears in her aged eyes still shine.

If only from out the silent world-The world of shadows which mock her so—
The world of shadows which mock her so—
One might return to his vacant chair,
To sit with her in the fire-light's glow!
If on:y— Was that a white, white hand
That seemed to beckon her out of the gloom?
Or was it the ember's last bright flash
That startled the shadows round the room?

The Christmas-eve it has passed at length;
A glorious day from the night is born;
The shoows are gone from earth away,
And the bells are ringing for Christmas morn.
But ah! by the broad old chimney-place
The augel of death keeps watch alone,
For straight to the christ-child's beckoning arms
A longing spirit hatb gladly flown.

An Appeal for a Sober Christmas. We have been requested to give publication to the following appeal adopted at a

meeting of the Woman's Temperance Union .- Baltimore American. Christmas Greeting to the Women of way, but tried not to believe that he was Maryland: The angel's song of "Peace much ander the influence of liquor. At upon Earth and Good Will unto Men" will last, he told me that, having been very sucsoon recebo throughout the world; and re- cessful that day in a little affair which had membering this, we appeal to the wives, brought in a good sum, he had indulged a mothers, and daughters of our city and State | trifle too freely. He momentarily grew wilder to combine their influence for good and in his conversation, and several times exthat the paternal monster was growing make this the most joyful Christmas festival pressed a wish to visit some gaming den. Of fiercer, and advising me to leave Virginia that has ever been celebrated in their midst, course I strenuously opposed that; but immediately." We pray them to banish from their receptions all intoxicating drinks, nobly daring play. You cannot imagine my feelings when to set aside an evil custom which, though it I discovered that he was fixed and deter-

tend to the ruin of many a soul. We implore them as in the sight of God, by the love they bear their nearest and dear best in the neighborhood, and engaging est, to shun the fearful woe pronounced on one of the small rooms, we sat down, "him who putteth the bottle to his neighbor's lips." The blight may not have game. I had with me that night more money reached their homes; then, in very thankfulness, let them resolve to do nothing to deepen the shadows on other hearthstones. We ask this at their hands in the name of the

There is one Government office where it is money in the occupant's pocket not to ceeding, it seemed, from the folds of the stenl the revenue, and that is the post office

Being asked the other evening the conven-lional question of "how he liked America," asked with drunken sarcusm: Maub ""What's the matter? Got 'em again?" It der: tional question of "how he liked America,"

MY CHRISTMAS IN 1871.

A Richmond Christmas Story.

[Written for the Dispatch.] Awaking late on Christmas morning in 1871, I arose and put on my clothes in haste, when I remembered that on that day I was to receive one of the handsomest of presents. From my infancy I had been cared for by a dear and affectionate aunt, who, not being satisfied with having reared me like a prince, and having spoiled me with her motherly tenderness, had on each Christmas for several years presented me with a check for one thousand dollars. This piece of extravagance on her part had had a bad effect upon me; for, while I studied diligently, and in general conducted myself with proper decorum, yet, by aid of the money I yearly received from my aunt, whose fortune I was sure would eventually be mine, there were opened to my view so many and such alluring temptations that it was impossible not to fall. The babit of drinking had quite imper-ceptibly grown upon me. This pleasure had during the past years proved so costly that, notwithstanding the large amount at my disposal, I had incurred debts of no ordinary size. With the check I was to get that morning these were to be discharged.

I hurried down stairs and into the breakfast-room, where I found that aunt had been awaiting breakfast for me. I saluted her with a kiss, as was my custom, and wished her the sweetest of Christmases. My kiss was returned, and, too, with interest in the shape of a second kiss. In a few moments we sat down at the table, my heart beating with joy, for under my plate was usually placed what now I looked so eagerly for. To my unbounded astonishment I saw there nothing but the plain white cloth. My irritable nature was sorely fretted; never was I so displeased. My aunt noticed the disappointment, which I could not hide, and an ndescribable expression passed over her features. I boldly endeavored to counterfeit gaiety, but sadly failed, consequently the meal was wearving in the extreme. As soon as I had gratified my limited appetite I left the table. Going into the hall, drawing on my overcoat and gloves, and lighting a cigar, the door of my aunt's house was soon closed behind me. In the company of my gay friends I was certain I could find forget-

I had not proceeded more than a couple. of squares when I met Will. Wilford, who, grasping my hand warmly, said that he was on his way home, and intended stopping by my house to let me know that I was counted upon as one of a party of six which proposed spending the morning in one of the private rooms at ---- 's restaurant. Telling him I would be on band, and learning that 11 o'clock was the time assigned for the meeting, I left him, and wandered down to the Exchange to while away the intervening

When the office-clock indicated 11, I quitted some gentlemen with whom I had been talking, and immediately going to the appointed place met my friends entering. Four of the five were my intimate a sociates-generous, noble, merry fellows, whose sole sin was their love for what they chose to designate fun. The fifth was an utter stranger to me, and introduced as Carl Maubray, an old classmate of Will. Wilford at the University. I was particularly attracted by his personal appearance. He was of the medium height, slenderly built but muscular, with a face remarkably handsome, light hair, light moustache, and large, keen, darkblue eyes. His attire was scrupulously neat, with no sign of jewelry. He presented, all in all, extraordinary taste and refinement. His conversation was easy and stowed.

Miss Dolly was seated beneath a pine tree,
By the side of a table spread out for her tea;
A work-box, well filed, in the centre was laid,
And on it a rite, for which Annie nad prayed.
A soldier, in uniform, stood by a sied
"With bright, shining runners, and all painted red."

With bright, shining runners, and all painted red." flowing, and entirely free from anything There were balls, degs, and horses, books pleasant | Whist was the game decided upon, and we all cut, the stranger and I losing. Each of the four pressed him to accept his place, but he courteously refused. It was finally agreed a hand at the end of a few games. The four

social that he began to tell me of his last ad-

"In the early part of November last," he

venture in the field of romance.

a local reporter, I received a very reasonable courted and flattered by them to a considerable degree. I took advantage of their willingness to serve me, and, by their aid, was not long in getting into the first social circles. Scareely had I made my entrance into society when my heart was bewitched by banker, whose heart-strings were attuned villainies." but to the jingle of gold, hearing of our attachment sought to separate us. The arguments advanced by him, that I was without originator. I received from him last Friday punctual; found him alone, and apparently intoxicated. He bide me be seated; and abruptly proceeded to say that he had gained a knowledge of his daughter's love for me, and that it I conducted myself well I should was startled by the suddenness of the declaration, but completely overjoyed. I thanked the old banker from the fullness of my heart. After sitting for some moments we left the place of business, and walked up town to-gether. I noticed that he leaned heavily upon my arm and talked in an unusual what I said seemed to increase his desire to may not now harm them or theirs, may yet mined. After much persuasion, however, he agreed to play only with me. So, going into an establishment which he said was the beginning to play cards for twenty dollars a

I was well aware that I had to enter with heart into the play so as to arrest his whole attention. I assumed a careless position,

watch, saying:
... Well, Pil put that 'gainst a double X.' Just then I heard a half-suppressed sob, probeavy damask curtains that separated us at Mulgrave, Canada, where the gross and from the next room. I arose and started nual receipts are \$9.01 and the salary is \$10. forward. The banker grasped my arm, and

Von Bulow replied that he thought it a was with difficulty that I could restrain my country of wonderful liberties. "Indeed?" indignation. An almost uncontrollable desaid his friend, inquiringly. "Yes," said the sire to quit him and the accursed place took life." In a moment will be the greatest joy of my said his friend, inquiringly. "Yes," said the possession of me. But, remembering the possession of me. But, remembering the sweet face of his refined daughter, the love muttered, thinking I alluded to drawing a

chair; the game was renewed; I when he called the servant to get a pen and ink, I had won the amount he filled up a cline to take it, I thought, would be foolish. Therefore I put the check into my pocket determined to call at his office the next day and return it. We left the room together,

but soon parted. "About half-past nine next morning I entered his business establishment. I went directly back to his office. As soon as I had bray said: crossed the threshold he touched a little silver bell upon his desk; the servant entering, was told to show me the door. That was truly the severest cut I had ever resimply bowed, however, and left the place. At his residence, where I asked to see his daughter, I was handed a note which requested me to discontinue my visits." "He, then, had misrepresented you to

her ! " I exclaimed. "Why, sir, ber's was the half-suppressed sob I had heard in the gaming den-she, in company with a relative, was in the room adjoining ours. The trap had been set for me, and I had fellen into it. In a short while I became aware that the check was payable to a woman's order. This he hoped. would use, thereby throwing myself completely in his power."

"The scoundrel !" I cried in my excitement. "And yet," he continued, " that is no all. Finding that his daughter still retained some affection for me, and happening to be in Baltimore last Friday, he has put out the report that he was knocked down there and robbed by me-robbed of a two-thousanddollar check.

"Maubray," I said, deeply feeling what I bad heard, "be good enough to rely wholly upon me. I shall shield you from the heartess wretch's falsehoods. Keep up a light heart; such calumnies are short-lived." "Thanks, thanks," be replied ; " I, knew,

when I first looked upon you that in you the time of its writing Colonel Lee was on I could find a sympathizer and a friend. Here," he continued, putting his hand into fensive works in Baltimore barbor, a posthis pocket and drawing forth a check, "here tion wich he held in the interval between his is the check I spoke of-it stands as a proof return from the Mexican war and his appointof the banker's baseness." "Come, come, Carl! John!" shouted Will

Wilford, "come and take your places !" Maubray quickly motioned meto be mum, and handing me the check, which I laid in Parke Custis, the adopted son of the first my hat upon the table, we crossed the room and joined the game. We had played a couple of hours, when Maubray, saying that the many details not given in the letter which heated room and the liquors had given him would have made our realization of the a headache, left, letting me know, however, Christmas scenes more complete, as there are that he expected to meet me at the same place at 7 o'clock. It was not long after this are immaterial, but we are afforded a charmbefore we all parted.

library. Aunt was sitting there; as soon as I cheer is no longer spread at Arlington we had entered she said, holding out a telegram : may look back to its enjoyment beyond the Christmas present. It is from Mr. McLay, The letter says: my financial agent." I opened it, and was amazed. It read as

follows: day night, at the farther end of the Southern for the cars, which were detained by the der of at Baltimore, awaiting the trait, I was snow and frost in the rails. We found your* knocked down and robbed of a check for grandfather at the Washington derôt, Daniel you, some private papers, and money. The and the old carriage and horses, and young assault and robbery was bold; yet the villain Daniel on the colt Mildred. Your mother, escaped. I have just recovered, and haste grandfather, Mary Eliza, the little people, to let you know what detained me. I shall be in Richmond to-morrow. "JAMES MCLAY.

" Monday, December 25, 1871." I was entirely bewildered. I stood and stared abstractedly. "What is the matter, John?" asked aunt.

"No; a lawyer."

"Is he a married man?"

"Two thousand dollars." thought of the check he had handed me, and fore day on Christmas morning, to overhaul remembered, too, that I had neglected to re- their stockings. Mildred thinks she drew that both Maubray and myself should take turn it. I looked into my hat and found it the prize in the shape of a beautiful new there, kept from falling out by being caught doll; tangelina's infirmities were so great sat down at their table, and we took our in the lining. The truth was revealed. The that she was left in Baltimore, and this new seats at a small table some few feet distant, check was signed by "James McLay," and treasure was entirely unexpected. The cakes, declaring our intention to play euchre, made payable to aunt's order. Upon candies, books, &c., were overlooked in the Liquors were handed around at intervals a close examination I detected that carresses she bestowed upon her, and she by a servant in attendance, and Maubray "Savannah" had been written with was scarcely out of her arms all day. Rooncy and I grew very gay and communicative, a lead-pencil, and partly erased, upon got among his gifts a nice pair of boots, dropping our cards when we found that we could interest one another so well without them. I was fescinated with his description of his University life, of his travels, and of his love affairs. His knowledge of hooks astonished me. He was a memoral of that the names of ten firms of that city. It was evident that this was a memorandum made by Mr. McLay in reference to his business in Sayannah. This his travels, and of his love affairs. His it was, to doubt, that led Maubray to remain into church, and Rooney and the twins the particularly wanted, and the girls, I hope, were equally well pleased with their presents, books and trinkets.

Your mother, Mary, Rooney, and I went into church, and Rooney and the twins the particularly wanted, and the girls, I hope, were equally well pleased with their presents, books and trinkets. knowledge of books astonished me. He was in Richmerd. Gradually I began to see skated back on the canal (Rooney having well acquainted with and spoke critically of every English work I (to sound his depth) through the whole affair. The check had and we filled his place in the carriage with mentioned. Thus the time glided by, and had said, and in order that I might become so Miss Sarah Stuart, one of Miss comrades still our whist-charmed friends played and interested in him as not to hesitate in lend- Minny Lloyd was detained at home to assist we chatted, all of us occisionally warring ing him whatsoever he wished. I told my her mother at dinner, but your Aunt Maria

against the temperance creed. By this time aunt all, omitting only the kind of establish brought her and Miss Lucretia Fizhugh Maubray and I had become so free and ment in which I had spent the morning. I out the next day, and Wallace Stiles and his then sat down and wrote and dispatched a brother arriving at the same time, we had note to Detective K- desiring him to meet quite a tableful. me at the Exchange at 6 o'clock prepared said, "I was employed upon the New York for a little business. After dinner, finding Tribune, from which paper, for services as | that I had an hour to spare, I strolled around | their amusements have been necessarily into Will. Wilford's house for the purpose of salary. My position immediately brought hearing something of Maubray's early life. maintained their reserve so far, notwithme many friends, and I soon found myself It was not long after I got there before the standing the captivating advances of the countried and fattered by them to a consideraconversation turned upon the desired sub-

> Maubray," he observed. "I found him very interesting."

one of the fairest of that fair sex so loved brightest of scholars and the shrewdest of fel- Sarah Stuart reluctantly confessed that their and respected by all true men. She pos- lows. Though he was guilty of many ras- mammas ordered them to return in the first sessed a delicate beauty and a gracefulness calities, even these were rendered somewhat carriage. We have only, therefore, Wallace and stateliness of manner that placed her attractive by his eloquence. I had not seen and Edward Stiles and Miss Lucretia Fitzabove her companions. In a short him since he left school until yesterday, when hugh in addition to our family circle. time, I had entered her list of suitors, and I invited him to join us at --- 's to day. I soon had wooed and won her. Her father, a suppose he has long ago laid aside his little ments; you have witnessed them so often;

I left soon after I had satisfied my curiosity, and going to the Exchange found Kwaiting for me. I stated my business, and lowered them. I was about to turn and prayer. ere long have the noblest woman alive. I leave, thinking I had been foiled, when I heard Maubray's clear, silvery voice.

said. "How's this?" I asked. remove the whole." In his second edition of fables I counted

this as No. 1. "But what followed," he continued "was a thousand times worse. I received a telegram from a gentleman in New York stating

This I recorded as fable No. 2. "Then, Carl, you will need money," I said, feigning a sympathetic tone. "Too true!" he replied, putting on the look of an injured man. "I can, then, do you a service?"

"I dere not ask it," he muttered.
"Speak out, Carl. What will you want Did I not tell you I would hefriend you? How much?"

"If I must say, five hundred dollars!" the floor, with his hands behind him, fingers women who suffer, and may rick blessings talked slang, and lost my last cent. 'Twas locked into one another. What a lot of dark rest on all who hear and heed.

By order of the W. C. T. Union of Maryland.

There is a man now in jail for six months, locked into one another. What a lot of dark thoughts must kave been passing through and to remain six months longer. His board his mind! I arose, and going to him, placed my hand upon his shoulder. Viewing him the city two hundred and nineteen dollars. from the next room. I arose and started the place of my original scheme. I gave forward. The banker grasped my arm, and K— a nod that he understood, and said to Maubray, keeping my hand upon his shoul- DILLON, ELLETT & CO.,

"Fortune smiling, the aid I shall render in a moment will be the greatest joy of my

she bore me, and the trust she reposed in | check. He still stood as motionless as a colme, my better nature ruled. I sank back umn, with his back towards the door. K. had stolen in, stepping noiselessly upon the won; he doubled the bet; I won again, and carpeted floor, and now grasping the opporcontinued to win until we stopped. So that, funity, as quick as thought he fastened his patented steel handcuffs upon his wrists. Maubray sprang around, and struggled for a check for-two thousand dollars! To de- moment violently-hissing between his

"Devil!" "I am glad to meet bim," said K. "' Have seen nearly all of his family; but never 'til now his highness." All the coolness natural to a consummate

villain coming to him, with a low bow Mau-"Gentlemen, I congratulate you. Friend John, I am charmed with the change that has come over you. In the morning, as green as an emerald-in the evening, as bright as a was truly the severest can have being. I diamond. Your artistic manner of handcuffing is commendable. You seemed to have followed old Polonius's instructions in regard to 'grappling' your friends with 'hooks of steel."

"It is the only way to secure them," I retorted. "I suppose," he continued, "you intend to explain your conduct before long?" "Just whenever the proper officer requires an explanation," I replied. "For the present, I prefer to lend you a sweet morsel of mystery to feast your brilliant intellect upon.

So saying, I bowed and left the room. Detective K. remarked, in Maubray's language, as I crossed the door-sill: You are, John, the truest of friends!"

[From the New York Times.] Christmas at Arlington House AS ROBERT E. LEK SAW IT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS YEARS AGO.

A picture of Christmas scenes at Arlington House nearly a quarter of a century ago is very satisfactorily given in a letter from General (then a brevet Colonel) Lee, addressed to his eldest son, Custis, now the President of Washington and Lee University. The letter, lost in the vicissitudes of the war, has never before been in print, At duty as engineer officer in charge of the dement in 1852 to be superintendent at West Point. In these years the family circle was often united at Arlington, the home of his wife, where her father, George Washington a few which, forming part of a family letter, ing sketch in the narrative of the father to Arriving at home, I went straight to the his absent son, and now that the Christmas "This is why you did not get your usual chasm of the war with especial interest.

ARLINGTON, 28th December, 1851. We came on last Wednesday morning. It was a bitter cold day, and we were kept "I was on my way South, when, last Fri- waiting an bour in the derôt at Baltimore and the baggage, I thought load enough for the carriage, so tRooney and I took our feet in our hands and walked over. We looked for the Anne Chase, in which to get a lift to Roop's Hill, but congratulated ourselves afterward that we missed her, for she only Rich.... AMETHYST JEWELBY. overtook us after we had passed Jackson Rich....ROMAN GOLD NECKLACES, "Is Mr. McLay a banker?" I questioned. City, and was scarcely out of sight when Rich....ROMAN GOLD CROSSES, we turned up the Washington turnpike. Rich ROMAN GOLD MEDALLIONS, The snow impeded the carriage as well as Elegant. Chased and ENAMELLED WATCHES, and we reached here shortly after it. Flevant, BOYAL OPERA CHAINS, "What was the amount you expected?" The children were delighted at getting back, | Elegant. GUARD CHAINS, and passed the evening in devising pleasures Maubray's story, then, was all a myth. I for the morrow. They were in upon us be-

The young people have been quite assiduous in their attentions to each other, as doors; but the beaux have successfully the ice was soft and rough, and it was aban-"You seemed to have been pleased with doned in despair. They have not moved out of the house since. To-day the twins were obliged to leave us, and when the car-"At college," he continued, "Carl was the ringe came to the door Minny Lloyd and

I need not describe to you our amuse nor the turkey, cold hum, plum-pudding, mince-pies, &c., at dinner. I hope you will enjoy them again, or some equally as good. The weather has been bitter cold. I do talents, that my origin was humble, and that | we proceeded to a magistrate's, where I swore | not recollect such weather (I can only judge I was poor, did not lessen her love. Noting out a warrant, and, armed with that power, by my feelings) since the winter of 1835. this be conceived a scheme worthy of its we went to -- 's restaurant. Arriving have not been to Washington yet, but wil there we passed on down the long hall, endeavor to get over to-morrow. I am week a note desiring me to meet him at his and when nearing the room in which I was writing this to mail then. The family have banking-house at 8 o'clock that evening. I to find Maubrey I requested K-- to refired, but I know I should be charged was surprised; but it did not seem so very remain just outside the door until I gave a with much love from every individual were strange, for I had repeatedly met him at signal for him to enter. Going in, I saw sithis residence, and upon each occasion I ting at the centre table a man of the medium without bidding. May you have many happy had been treated very courteously. I was size, clean-faced, wrapt in a bushy overcoat, years, all bringing you an increase of virtue nd wearing upon his head a black silk cap. and wisdom, all witnessing your prosperity When I had opened the door he raised his in this life, all bringing you nearer everlasteyes, which seemed jet black-raised them ing happiness hereafter. May God in His from a newspaper he held in his hand, and great mercy grant me this my constant

I had received no letter from you when I left Baltimore, nor shall I get any till I re-"I thought you would not know me," he turn, which will be, if nothing happens, tomorrow a week, 5th January, 1852. You will then be in the midst of your examina-"Just after leaving you I had the misfor- tion. I shall be very anxious about you. tune to burn one half of my moustache Give me the earliest intelligence of your while lighting a cigar, and therefore had to standing, and stand up before them boldly, manfully; do your best, and I shall be satis-

R. E. LEE.

* The venerable George Washington Parke Custis, † A younger son, known by this pet name in the family.

1 "Angelina" was evidently a doll, thus super-seeded by a newer and more comely favorite, on whom "infirmities" had not fallen.

The Chattanooga Times tells of a wonderful yield of corn. The land is Tennessee river bottom, and the river overflowed it in March, leaving a deep deposit of sediment. The corn was planted from the 20th of April to the 11th of May-rather late. An acre was measured off and the corn gathered from it; yield, 119; bushels. Another acre was gathered later, and the yield was 1143 bush-I called the servant and ordered a pen and els. An average acre on this uplant, gathink. Manbray stood gazing intently upon ered on the 22d of October, yielded 551 bushing. els, and another 581 bushels.

carefully, I noticed that about an inch of His offence was stealing a cotton umbrella. overcoat sleeve. A new way of securing sive on the people.—Lexington (Ky.) Gazette. him suddenly flashed upon me, occupying

LIME, CEMENT, AND PLASTER. MANUFACTURERS OF

"INDIAN' ROCK" LIME, have opened an office at 1298 Cary street (McKineney & Dupuy's). Orders solicited.
Lines Deport, old stand, 1503 Deck street.
Richmond, Van October 5, 1875.

HOLIDAY GOODS. TOYS AT AND BELOW COST.

Wanted, to close out a large stock of well-selected MECHANICAL AND OTHER TOYS.

As I intend to discontinue selling toys I offer Give me a call before you go elsewhere to buy your Christmas presents.

GEORGE KLEIN. de 21-dtDe25 No. 612 Broad street.

DIZZINI'S CONFECTIONEY STORE, 807 BROAD STREET. has now spread out its usual supply of Christmas

goods, and offers to its patrons a varied and select CANDIES AND FRENCH MIXTURES; STICK and DROP CANDIES; CANDY TOYS

FINE FRENCH BON-BONS; SUPERFINE CHOCOLATES LIQUOR-CANDIES, for trees; CRYSTALIZED FRUITS reduced to 75c. pe I shall leave you in company with Mr. K." FRENCH FRUITS-GLACE, MARON GLACE;

RAISINS of all kinds, for cakes and table use; CURRANTS-cleaned-ready for use; CITRON-clear and soft-free from sugar ; SHELLED ALMONDS-sweet and clean; arge variety of ornamented FRUIT- and POUND-

special attention is called to the elegant assortment of FINE FANCY BUXES-all selected especially for this house in Paris-consisting of beautiful silk, satin, and straw boxes -allata low pric for the quality;

ORNUCUPIAS-all sizes and prices. Attention of committeemen of church Christmas-trees is asked, as a discount will be made to them. PIZZINI'S! PIZZINI'S! 807 BROAD STREET. de 16-tDe26

MARDOZO, FOURQUREAN & CO.

COLORED-BORDER HEM-STITCHED HANDKERCHIEFS, INITIAL HANDKERCHIEFS. EMBROIDERED HANDKER VALENCIENNES LACE HAND-& CO'S. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS KERCHIEFS.
POINT APPLIQUE HANDKER-CHIEFS.
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FOURQUREAN & CO'S. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS KID GLOVES-from two to six buttons—in all sizes, KID GAUNTLETS, CARUOZO, FOURQUREAL SHAWLS, SUITS, PERFUMERIES, CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FANS. PORTE-MONNAIES,

CARDOZO, FOURQUREAN SCISSOR-CASES, HAIR-BRUSHES, TUCK-COMBS, BALBRIGGAN HOSE, & CO'S. CHRISTMAS PRESENTS COLORED HOSE, RUBBER TOYS in endless variety, ETC., ETC., ETC. de 13 & 00'8.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS * * * * & * * HOLIDAY PRESENTS * * * * * * * * HOLIDAY PRESENTS * * * * Now receiving at NOWLAN & CO.'S.

Rich STONE CAMEO JEWELRY, Elegant .. LEONTINE and VEST-CHAINS. Elegant .. SLEEVE- and BOSOM-BUTTONS,

Superb ... SILVER PIECES IN CASES, Superb ... SILVER PITCHERS, CUPS, and GOBLETS Superb SILVER CARD-CASES, Superb SILVER MATCH- and TOBACCO-BOXES. STONE CAMEO RINGS,

DIAMOND RINGS, ENCRUSTED RINGS, AMETHYST RINGS, EMERALD RINGS, PEARL BINGS, RUBY RINGS. ONYX RINGS.

New patterns selected expressly for our holiday. NOWLAN & CO., Jewellers.

WALTER D. BLAIR & CO.,

(Established 1829.) OUR CHRISTMAS SPECIALTIES: ANTIGUA RUM, Genuine and very fine; SCOTCH WHISKEY. Old and fine;

CHAMPAGNES-best brands; WINES-fluest imported; ALLEGHANY WHISKEY (Virginia Mountain Rye)-very good; WILLIS WHISKEY-very fine; B SELECT WHISKEY-Dr. McCaw's certificate;

TEAS-best grades: CIGARS-" Pride of Key West" and other popular brands of imported and domestic; IMPORTED CONDIMENTS and FANCY GRO-As our stock is purchased for cash we cannot be Liberal discount to the trade.

JOHN H. TYLER & CO. ELEGANT GOODS.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

JOHN H. TYLER & CO. espectfully inform their customers that in addition to their very large stock of DIAMONDS,

WATCHES,

SILVER and

PLATED WARE,
they have received an extensive assortment of goods of every variety suitable for the present holiday in the content of the present holiday in the content and the content and the content and the content are not only in the conten of every variety suitable for the present holiday season; and by every arrival their stock is daily in-Selections made by one of the firm now in the orthern cities. Great bargains may be expected. Call and ex-

STARKE & RYLAND, No. 913 MAIN STREET. have just opened a splendid stock of

CHRISTMAS GOODS, consisting of WORK-BOXES, WRITING-DESKS, Superb EDITIONS OF THE POETS, JEWELRY-CASES,

GLOVE- and HANDKERCHIEF-BOXES. LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S DRESSING-CASES, RUSSIA LEATHER WALLETS CARD-CASES, Fine CHROMOS, SOCIETY PICTURES, GOLD PENS, CHARMS, STEREOSCOPES, POCKET and FAMILY BIBLES, HYMN-BOOKS. PRAYER-BOOKS, HYMNALS, CHILDREN'S BOOKS in great variety. Our stock is fresh, and cannot be surpassed in

de 16-10t eauty or variety. UST RECEIVED, a BEAUTIFUL LINE of CHRISTMAS and HOLIDAY GOODS, consisting of FANCY CHAMBER, CABI-NET, and TIN SETS; VASES, BRONZES, PARIAN GOODS, &c., which I am offering very low.

I am prepared to and will sell goods in my line as low as they can be purchased here or elsewhere.

The ladies are respectfully invited to call. We rake great pleasure in showing our goods to all.

JAMES W. GIBSON,

de 8 1207 Main street.

CHRISTMAS GOODS.

MUSHROOMS. TRUFFLES,
PATE DE FOIE GRAS,
FRENCH PEAS,
ANCHOVIES and SHRIMPS, in salt and oil
FRENCH and ITALIAN MACCARONI and
VERMICELLI, at
the 6
CHRISTIAN & WHITE'S.

NEW GOODS!

20 DECORATED CHINA DINNER SETS, from
New York auction, to be closed out at less than
cost of importation:
Fine TEA and TOILET SETS; HARLEQUIN

CHRISTMAS GOODS. RENCH and TURKISH PRUNES, 10c. per pound;
Celebrated VIOLET PHUNES, 25c. per pound;
DRIED PEACHES and APPLES:
Alded's EVAPORATED PEACHES and APPLES; at
CHRISTIAN & WHITE'S. DURE FLAVORING EXTRACTS and

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J. T. ELLYSON,

THREE DOORS ABOVE DISPATCH OFFICE,

has just received per express another large in

ELEGANT GIFT-BOOKS,

few of which will be found in the following list

THE CHILDREN'S GIFT-BOOKS

are worthy of the special attention of parents an

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CROCKERY, GLASSWARE, &c.

French Coffee-Machines, Walnut Blacking-Cases,

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SETS, very low.

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Druggist, Sixth and Broad streets.

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BOOKS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

A NOTHER CHRISTMAS LIST Beal Estate Agents and Auctioneers, Eleventh street between main and Bank. TWO HANDSOME FRAME DWELL NEW GIFT-BOOKS. SPLENDID BINDINGS, BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVINGS

4:50

5 00

INGS ON THE EAST SIDE OF FOURTH STREET BETWEEN JACKSON AND DUVAL STREETS, FOR SALE AT AUCTION.—We will sell, upon the premises, on MONDAY, 27th December, at 4 o'clock P. M., the FWO HANDWOME FRAME TENEMENTS NOS. 723 and 725—one occupied by W. Z. Quuries, the other unoccupied—each containing seven rooms, and slitchen with two rooms, with has and water on the premises, and a culvert. The property fronts forty feet and runs back the usual depth.

Also. a VACANTLOT, fronting stateen feet, imemediately adjoining.

TERMS: At sale. GRUBBS & WILLIAMS.

de 23

Auctioneers.

AUCTION SALES-Future Days.

By Grubbe & Williams.

By Chaffin, Staples & Co., Real Estate Agents and Auctioneers, corner Tenth and Main streets.

RUSTEE'S SALE OF TWO VALUARLE LOTS IN THE PLAN OF HARVIE
AND SIDNEY AT AUCTION.—By viriue of a
deed of trust executed by W. S. Wood, trustee for
Mrs. B. A. Robertson, duly recorded in Henrico
Cousty Court clerk's effice (D. B. 96, p. 156), the
undersigned trustee-, bring so required by the beneficiary, will sell, upon the premises, to the bighest
bidder, on MONDAY, December 27, 1875, at 3%
o'clock P. M., TWO VACANT LOTS. One lot
fronts 26 feet on Harvie street and runs back 150
feet to an alley 14 feet wide. The other lot fronts
34 feet on Temple street and runs back 183 feet to
an alley 15 feet wide—both lots being parts of Lot
No. 16 in Harvie's plan, and are described as Lote
Nos. 4 and 11, respectively, on the plat annexed to
and recorded with a decree of partition of said Lot
No. 16 of Harvie's p'an in D. B. No. 94, p. 485, of
the records of Henrico County Court.

TERMS: Enough in cash to pay the expenses of
executing this trust and to pay off and discharge a
note of \$179, with interest from the 14th of December, 1875, till paid; and the residue upon such
terms as may be announced at the sale.

H. L. STA PLES, Tustee. TRUSTEE'S SALE OF TWO VALUA. ferms as may be announced at the sale.

H. L. STAPLES, Trustee.

CHAFFIN, STAPLES & CO., Auctioneers. de 22

By Frank D. Hill, Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer, No. 1108 Main street.

SSIGNEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE A SSIGNEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE TOBACCO-FACTORY MACHINERY AND FIXTURES AT PUBLIC AUCTION.—By virtue of an order of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Virginia, dated December 13, 1875, and as assignee of the estate of D. C. Mayo, bankrupt. I will proceed to sell at auction, at the factory at present occupied by said D. C. Mayo, at the southeast corner of Main and Twenty-fifth streets, on THURSDAY, December 30, 1875, at 11 o'clock A. M., a complete stock of MACHINERY and FIXTURES, combining all the latest improvements in manufacturing ping and the latest improvements in manufacturing ping and smoking tobacco, composed in part as follows: 1 THIRTY-HORSE-POWER ENGINE, 1 BOILER,

1 THIRTY-HORSE-POWER ENGINE
1 HOILER,
19 HYDRAULIC SHAPF-PRESSES,
12 HYDRAULIC POT-PRESSES,
14 HYDRAULIC POT-PRESSES,
15 HYDRAULIC PUMP,
18 HALF-POUND-LUMP MILLS,
16 POUND-LUMP MILLS,
17 LONG-TENS MILLS,
18 POURS MILLS,
19 FOURS MILLS,
2 FOURS MILLS,
2 ELEVEN-INCH MILLS. ELEVEN-INCH MILLS.

1 SHORT-TENS MILL, SCALES, LUMP-BOXES, WORK-TABLES, WOGR-TABLES,

KETTLES, TUBS,

B#NCHES,

SMOKING-TOBACCO PRESSES and CUTTERS,

SHAFTING, BELTING,

PULLEYS. &c. &c.,

comprising, in fact, everything necessary in a complete establishment.

plete establishment.

TERMS: Cash as to one fourth of the purchasemoney; the residue thereof on a credit of two, four, and six mouths, with interest added on deferred payments from the day of sale, for which said payments the purchasers shall give negotiable notes with approved security.

E. M. GARNETT, Assignee. E. M. GARNETT, Assignee. Sale conducted by FEANK D. HILL, Auctioneer, de 15

By J. Thompson Brown, Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer.

1113 Main street. TRUSTEE'S SALE, AT HENRICO LAND ON NEWBEIDGE ROAD.—By virtue of a LAND ON NEWBEIDGE ROAD.—By virtue of a deed of trust executed to me as trustee on the 7th day of March, 1874, by William Fletcher Jennings, and duly recorded in the clerk's office of Henrico County Court (deed-book 93, page 210), to secure a certain note therein mentioned, and default having been made in the payment of said note, I shall, being required so to do by the benedicary, sell at public auction on January 10th, 1876 (that being court-day), at 12 o'clock M, all the said Jennings's right to and interest in two certain TRACTS OF LAND is the county of Henrico, on the Newbridge road, one of said track besides of the said tracks besides the sa certain TRACTS OF LAND is the county of Henrico, on the Newbridge road, one of said tracts being the same on which William D. Jennings, father of said Fletcher Jennings, resided, near Newbridge church, and the other being a trict of 140 acres, immediately on the Newbridge road and opposite to a place called "Rural Shades," belonging

posite to a place called "Rural Shades," belonging to George M. Fleck, and the interest of said William Fletcher Jennings in said lands, being one undivided lifth part thereof.

TERMS: Cash sufficient to pay expenses of sale and a note of \$100 with interest from March 1, 1875.

A. R. GOURTNEY, Trustee.
J. THOMPSON BROWN, Auctioneer.
de 18.25.Jal &ids By Robert B. Lyne. (successor to Lyne & Brother.) Auctioneer and Real Estate Agent, No. 1212 Main street.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF A LARGE AND VALUABLE SALE OF A LANDE AND VALUABLE FRAME STORE AND DWELLING, WITH TWO ACRES OF LAND ATTACHED, ON THE WEST SIDE OF MECHANICSVILLE TURNPIKF, IN HENRICO COUNTY, NEAR THE CITY LIMITS. AND ADJOINING THE FRAME RESIDENCE OF HENRY J.
SMITH AND OTHERS, AND NOW OCCUPIED
BY JULIUS STAUDE, AT AUCTION.—By viraction deed of trust dated Outpote 20th BY JULIUS STAUDE, AT AUCTION. -BY ME tue of a certain deed of trust dated Oxfober 20th, 1873, of record in Henrico County Court, D. B. 92, page 527, from Julius Staude and wife, to secure the payment of a certain bond to the Mechanics Bullding Fund Company, default having been made in the payment thereof, we shall, as trustees made in the payment thereof, we shall, as trusters of said company, being the successors of those named in said deed, and being ordered by the board of directors of said Building Fund Company, sell, upon the premises, on TUESDAY the 28th day of December, 1875, at 4 o'clock P. M. the above valuable property. The many near the city and only recently built. The a business-stand it is quite valuable.

teet. Die Terms will be given at hour of saie.

HENRY THON,
GEORGE HIRSH,
CONKAD FELDNER,
Trustees of Mechanics Building Fund Company,
de 15-W,F,&dtd

RAILROADS AND STEAMERS.

RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT

RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT

LINES.—CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO—Way
mail train leaves daily (except on Sunday) at 9
A.M. Express and through train leaves daily at
9:10 P. M. Accommodation train daily (except
sunday) at 3:50 P. M.
RICHMOND AND DANVILLE.—Through Mail
leaves Richmond daily at 5:50 A. M. Lynchburg
Accommodation leaves Richmond at 9 A. M.
Through mail arrives at 9:35 P. M. Lynchburg
accommodation arrives at 4:34 P. M.
RICHMOND. FREDERICKSBURG AND POTOMAC.—Day Mail leaves daily at 2:35 P. M.
Arrives at 1:30 P. M. Night Mail leaves daily (except on Sundays) at 10:00 P. M. Arrives at 5
A. M. (except Moneay). Accommodation leaves
daily (Sundays excepted) for Hanover Junction at
6:05 P. M. Arrives at 8:37 A. M.
YORK RIVER AND CHESAPEAKE.—Passonger and Mail leaves daily at 3 P. M., connecting
Mondays, Wednesoays, and Fridays with scamer
at West Point for Baitimore and points No th and
East. Arrives at 10 A. M. Freight with passenger attrached leaves. Thresdays, Thursdays, and

at West Point for Raitimore and points No thand East. Arrives at 10 A. M. Freight with passenger car attached leaves Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 6:05 A. M.

RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG.—Day Through Mail leaves Richmond daily (except on Sundays) at 5:10 A. M. Evening Mail leaves at 1:45 P. M. daily. Freight train, with coach attached leaves Richmond daily (except Sunday) at 7:30 A. M. and 5 P. M.

JAMES RIVER STEAMBOAT COMPANY—Steamer for Norfolk and James River landings leaves Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 6:30 A. M. Arrive Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 3:30 P. M.

OLD DOMINION STEAMSHIP COMPANY.—Steamers for New York leave Richmond every Steamers for New York leave Richmond every Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday at high-tide. Travel-POWHATAN STEAMBOAT LINE. - Steamers

bindings.

PRAYER-BOOKS and HYMNALS. The present assortment has been selected from the collections of several publishers, and comprises perhaps the greatest variety ever seen here.

HYMN-BOOKS of the several religious denomina-POWHATAN STEAMBOAT LINE.—Steamers for Baltimore leave Richmond on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4 A. M., and saturdays at 4 P. M.
CANTON INSIDE LINE.—Steamers leave Richmond from corner of Twenty-second and Dock streets, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays connecting at Canton, Md., (East Baltimore.) with the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad for Philadelphia.
PHILADELPHIA, RICHMOND, AND NOR-FOLK LINE.—Steamers leave Richmond at 12 M. every Tuesday and Friday. PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS-elegant as well as

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS—elegant as well as chean styles;
PORTABLE WRITING-DESKS—of wood, papier mache, and leather:
PORTFOLIOS in great variety;
LADIPS' WORK-BOXES;
LALIES' DRESSING-CASES;
Handsome INKSTANDS;
POCKET-BOOKS and PURSES;
CARD-CASES:
PAPER-WEIGHTS;
GOLD PENS—a splendid stock;
PENCIL-CASES—of gold. ivory, pearl, and rubber;
Handsome ENGRAVINGS;
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